

**DEMOCRACY PREPSM BLACKSTONE VALLEY,
A RHODE ISLAND MAYORAL ACADEMYSM**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

12 Noon, January 27, 2010

Town Council Chambers, Cumberland Town Hall

45 Broad Street, Cumberland

Mayor McKee called the meeting to order at 12:17 p.m. Present were:

Mayor Daniel J. McKee (Chair)
Administrator T. Joseph Almond
Mayor Charles D. Moreau

Also present were Antonio Afonso, Drew Allsopp, Seth Andrew, Michael Magee, and Jeremy Chiappetta.

Minutes of Meeting of October 23, 2009

Mr. Almond (seconded by Mr. Moreau) moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 23, 2009. AYE: Almond, McKee, Moreau.

Chair's Report

The Chair announced that he would pass on providing a report.

Head of School's Report

Mr. Chiappetta provided an overview of the STEP assessment. Scholars have already reached the year-end STEP benchmark!

- Scholars took the Terra Nova literacy and math assessments last week. The Terra Nova assessment will be given again in June.
- Mr. Chiappetta proposed ideas for improving recruitment for next year. Possible actions include:
 - o Handing out leaflets and applications as done previously but also include at city agencies but also at mayors' and town administrator's offices.
 - o Making connections with preschools
 - o McColl Field YMCA in Lincoln
 - o How to target students not in preschool?
--OCYL (Cumberland)
 - o Finding current 4th graders for the opening of the 5th grade next year

--Mr. Magee will ask Tehani Collazo to send e-mail request to mayors and town administrator Almond for tips

- o PTOs might lead to reception. Parent association coordinators, etc.
- o Target 4th grade teachers directly?
- o Literacy Center mailing list.
- o Boys and Girls Club.

Mr. Almond stated that many Lincoln parents had been unaware of the opening of the Mayoral AcademySM and that that explained the relative lack of applications from Lincoln.

Mr. Chiappetta stated that a family leadership council would be taking a role in recruiting students for the coming year. He cautioned, however, that there was a need to assure that parents of all types feel welcomed to participate in the advocacy efforts of the leadership council.

Mr. Chiappetta also indicated that a third party vendor would perform mailings to some 8,000 parents of prospective students, as the mailings provoked the most interest of the various recruitment methods being used.

Acquisition or lease of real estate

Mr. Almond (seconded by Mr. Moreau) moved to go into executive session to discuss matters related to the acquisition or lease of real estate pursuant to R.I. General Laws § 42-46-5(a)(5). AYE: Almond, McKee, Moreau. NAY: None.

*** EXECUTIVE SESSION ***

Mr. Moreau (seconded by Mr. Almond) moved to keep the minutes of the executive session closed. AYE: Almond, McKee, Moreau. NAY: None.

Lottery schedule and update

Due to the pending application to increase the size of the school (or to operate a separate school), it is premature to determine the lottery schedule and procedures. These items should be decided once a response from the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is received.

Change of name of corporation

Mr. Magee indicated that the school's having the same name as the corporation sometimes creates confusion, especially since the name of the charter management organization is included as part of the corporation's name. He recommended that the board change the name of the corporation to Rhode Island Mayoral AcademySM Blackstone Valley. Following a brief discussion, Mr. Almond made a motion to change the name of the corporation to Rhode Island Mayoral AcademySM Blackstone Valley, which motion was seconded by Mr. Moreau and was unanimously adopted by all members.

Public forum

The Chair invited any members of the public to address the board. No members of the public requested to speak.

Adjournment

Mr. Moreau (seconded by Mr. Almond) moved to adjourn. AYE: Almond, McKee, Moreau NAY: None. The Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel C. Waugh,
Secretary